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N. E. FARMER.

For the New England Farmer.

CULTIVATION OF FOREST TREES.

Mr Editor—I have noticed recently in several of our agricultural papers, communications upon the cultivation and growth of forest trees; and it appears to me that the writers of those articles are not correct in all their views on this subject. It has been recommended to thin out and trim up our young wood lots, to promote their growth, and it is this idea that I think to be essentially wrong.

The object desired in a wood lot is, a straight, thrifty growth—that as many trees should stand on the ground as can grow to advantage, and that the ground should be free from under-brush and be kept in the best condition for the improvement of the trees. Observation has convinced me that these results will be realized more fully, if nature is left to perform its own operations, than they can be by any attempts to assist her.

Where we cut off the wood from a thrifty lot, we find that for every tree we cut, some twenty or thirty spring up to take its place. These young shoots grow for one year very thrifty, but the second year shows a falling off in their numbers, and so in every succeeding year the numbers grow less: the more thrifty over-top the feeble, and they die, decay, and fall down, to make manure for those that remain. The trees will still stand so thick, that they cannot grow in any other direction than straight up. They cannot branch out—they must go "right ahead"—and this they will do annually, thinning out the feeble trees till no more are left on the ground than can grow to advantage.

The advantage of letting the trees grow thick is, that it makes them grow straight, and prevents their branching out like pasture oaks. The trees that annually die, soon become excellent manure for those which remain, keeping the ground light and helping to retain the yearly deposite of leaves and prevent them from blowing off.

The trees growing thick will also help to retain the fallen leaves, and will so shade the ground as to keep it moist and prevent the growth of under brush and grass. On the other hand, if you thin out and trim up your trees, you produce exactly opposite results;—your trees branch out like apple trees, and become stinted by the grounds becoming hard and dry, and by the loss of the leaves which will be blown out of the lot by every wind—the brush and grass will spring up and obstruct the trees, and in short you will loose at least one half the growth of your wood.

This is my theory, supported by facts which have come under my observation; one of which I will mention.

A large young wood lot was bought by two men of my acquaintance, and divided between them. One of them thought he would put his in shape. He cut out every surplus tree, and trimmed up those which remained, and left his lot, as he thought, in order to grow to the best advantage. He thought he had killed two birds with one stone: he had saved some cords of good wood, and benefited his lot into the bargain.

The other man went upon the "let alone" principle, and it never worked better than in this case. The difference between the two lots may be seen almost as far as you can see them. The "let alone" lot has almost double the value of wood and timber on it that the other has.

Another gentleman in my neighborhood, who had, or thought he had, money enough and to spare, sent 8 or 10 hands into a beautiful young wood lot, to "put it to rights." They cut down and trimmed up, and made it like a park. It looked beautifully, but the trouble is that the trees have grown but little since. They look rough and stinted; and the lot never will be of much value till the wood is all cut off and suffered to start up again.

I could mention several other cases that have come under my observation; but these I think are sufficient to establish my doctrine, that the best way to cultivate forest trees is to let them alone—keep man and beast away from them, and let nature take its own course, and "have her perfect work."

FORESTER.

For the N. E. Farmer.

PREPARATION FOR SPRING'S WORK.

There are, I am aware, many farmers who need no hints on this subject, but the most of us, it must be confessed, are apt to be rather remiss.

Generally speaking, very few are fully prepared for the spring when it arrives, and it is not unfrequently the case, indeed, that the best part of the season is occupied in mending and making tools, which a just regard for our interests should have prompted us to supply before the period of their use arrives.

I am aware that this will appear to be rather a dry subject; but it is by attending to small things, that we lay the foundation of prosperity and success in those which are great. There is nothing like *economy*. A farmer who disregards the peculiar and appropriate avocations of the season, until the period for their performance arrives, in all probability, will find that many important and essential duties, and which might have been easily discharged at leisure moments, cannot be performed on the *nonce*, without involving serious trouble and expense.

H. D. W.

Windham, Me., Feb. 28, 1842.

For the N. E. Farmer.

LAYING DOWN PEATY SOILS—PROPER DRESSINGS FOR THEM.

Mr Editor—Will you, or some of your numerous contributors to your valuable paper, give your mode of seeding down muck land? There is considerable land of this description in my section, which we find very difficult to make the grass live through the next spring after laying it down:—most of it winter-kills.

If you were to make a compost for muck land on a clay subsoil, what kind of soil would you use?

I have drawn into my yard this winter, one hundred and twentyfive loads of muck, which was taken from a very wet place:—subsoil, gravelly loam and sand.

Would it be advisable to put this description of manure on to muck, subsoil being clay?

Q. C. RICH.

Shoreham, Feb. 18*th*, 1842.

Answer.—On the peaty or muck soils there is difficulty in getting grass to live through its first spring, because the action of frost there rends and throws out the roots. This difficulty is remedied *in part* by a coating, say eight or ten cords of coarse sand, fine gravel, loam, soil or clay. Either of these substances answers a good purpose upon the surface of these *peaty* lands, both as a hardener of the surface, and as a *manure*, or fertilizer. If the grass seed (timothy or herds grass is best)—if this be sowed in the spring, or early autumn, without grain, or with so little grain as to afford only a little shade to the grass, and if the upland substances above named are applied as a dressing, and care be taken by rolling to make the surface compact as possible, the grass generally will do well. The object is to make a compact *surface*—no matter how thin that surface, if compact. The upland substances greatly help in doing what is desired. We speak of lands that have been well drained and cultivated with a potato or some other crop.

The same course will answer on such lands where the sward has not been broken, only more gravel, loam or clay is needed, and animal manure or ashes should be applied as part of the coating.

We should never put a muck compost upon muck soil. The matters from the uplands are much more beneficial. There is sound philosophy in the course of the old practical farmer, Mr Stanly, of Attleboro', who said at one of the agricultural meetings at the State House, that he would put gravel in his hog-pen if he wanted the manure for peat lands.—Ed.

For the N. E. Farmer.

NEW SPECIES OF CLOVER.

A friend in France recently gave me the following information:—"In a late excursion, I found a grass lately introduced into the country, of a new description. It is here denominated the Scarlet Clover, and is thought far superior to any thing of the kind which has been cultivated. It is highly valued for green feed, and may be introduced at different periods of the season. Its growth is very rapid, the stock large, tender, succulent and nourishing. The Ipswich Gazette (Eng.) thus describes it:

'*New Species of Clover.*—As an addition to our spring food, a new species of clover has lately been introduced from Italy into the agriculture of this country. It is called *Trifolium incarnatum*, and bears a beautiful head of bright and red flowers, resembling sainfoin in color. It requires a good

soil, and the mode of cultivating it hitherto pursued has been, to plow up a wheat stubble, immediately after harvest, and sow the seed at the rate of eight pounds an acre. It produces a large burden, which comes to use at the commencement of the following May—a period when such a supply of green food must be of incalculable value, and which will admit of turnips following in succession.'

With this communication I received a small quantity of the seed. I sowed the last of August, and the vegetation was surprisingly quick. My cattle fed incessantly on it through the season, starting favorably in the spring. But its thrift was not of long continuance. I sowed the greater part of the seed late in the fall, and it wholly failed. I expect more of the seed, and think I can correct my manner, and that it may prove beneficial. I am yours, J. W.

Dorchester, Feb. 22d.

For the N. E. Farmer.

NEW AND VALUABLE IMPORTATION OF STOCK.

Mr Editor—Of all the improvements in our agriculture, none, it is believed, are more important than the introduction of all the finest breeds of cattle, of horses, sheep, &c., which have been produced by modern skill and science in Britain. For numerous and extensive importations, no gentlemen in our country have done more than Messrs. Corning and Sotham, of Albany, this being the sixth visit of the latter to England, his native country, and his fourth extensive importation during the last ten years, of the finest individuals, selected by himself from the most celebrated flocks and herds of that country. These gentlemen have imported upwards of forty head of cows, bulls and calves, about one hundred and eighty Cotswood sheep, and two cart horses. The principal part of these cattle have been of the Hereford breed. The cows of this breed yield milk of the richest quality, which contains a large proportion of butter; but though of very superior quality, yet heretofore the milk which they have produced, has not been in that exuberant quantity that the Durhams, the Yorkshire, or Ayreshire cows produce. The oxen are first rate for work. The Hereford breed possess also the very important property of retaining flesh and of fattening on ordinary fare, and in a remarkably short space of time producing beef of the finest quality. In these respects, the improved Hereford breed are reputed to surpass all other breeds known in Britain. During this last autumn, at the Smithfield cattle market, in London, all the annual highest prizes for fat oxen, were awarded to the Herefords.

The Cotswold sheep are celebrated for producing a large quantity of wool and mutton: the former not indeed of so fine a quality as the Merino, yet admirably adapted for blankets, carpets, and clothing of secondary quality, and a great variety of uses; the mutton is of very superior quality, and they come to market earlier than any other breed, more frequently yearling than at any other age, and they possess the important property of fattening on ordinary food.

The English cart horse is a very important item in our improvements. They are remarkable for heavy draughts, and are fast walkers. The best trained horses of this breed are never, as Mr Sotham has stated, allowed to run, but are taught only to walk at the quick step. In point of utility they are undoubtedly very far more valuable than the race horse, and as such, they will not fail to prove a great acquisition to the farmer.

Mr Sotham has brought out in the ship Hendrick Hudson, Capt. Morgan, which has lately arrived at New York from London, *Venus*, a Short-horned cow and bull calf Columbus of the same breed; and forty three Cotswold ewes. They also purchased "Major," the well known Hereford bull, that has taken seven of the first prizes in England, and was allowed by judges to be one of the best bulls of any breed that England ever produced; but he unfortunately died on board the vessel, after being on the ocean forty two days; also Cleopatra, a beautiful cow, of the Durham breed, died a few days after him. This was a public loss of more weight than at first could be supposed. Unless "Major" had been seen, his good points cannot be described. Fortunately, however, for Messrs. Corning and Sotham, they have several young bulls and heifers got by him.

Our passage home was long and tempestuous, and on the 6th of February and 14th particularly, came on a succession of violent gales and furious storms, and it was in consequence of the continual rolling of the ship, that a portion of all these animals perished, being worn to death.

[The paragraph here concerning the steam-ship Caledonia, is of no consequence now that the fears entertained for her safety have been dispelled by the arrival of the Acadia.]

I came home in the above splendid ship, the Hendrick Hudson, which arrived at New York March the 1st. We rested secure, under Divine Providence, and amid the storms, in the most perfect confidence in the skill and experience of our able commander, Capt. E. E. Morgan, and in the superior strength and management of our ship.

WM. KENRICK.

Nonantum Hill, Newton, March 2d, 1842.

PRUNING.

If the branches of a young tree, issuing at and above the requisite height, be made, by pruning, to diverge from the trunk in every direction above the horizontal, and the interior of these be carefully kept from any interference with each other, for a few years, little pruning will ever afterwards be necessary.

Many of my remarks in this section have reference principally to orchards of the apple, the peach, and the pear, cultivated as standards in our own highly favored climate, and on an extensive scale, and are not intended as applicable to the admirable system of cultivating fruit trees in pyramidial form, or *en quenouille.*

The complicated systems of the English for pruning the apple, pear, peach and plum, are not, in all respects, so necessary for us; they are, in part, adapted exclusively to a cold climate. It is not necessary with us to lay open and expose every part of the tree to the direct rays of the sun; the atmosphere being, in our climate, generally of itself sufficient to ripen the fruit.

Heavy pruning is seldom necessary or advisable; but when, as in the case of grafting, or of heading down for a new growth, it becomes unavoidable, it should always be performed in that interval between the time the frost is coming out of the ground in spring, and the opening of the leaf.

A complete heading for any purpose should never be performed in early summer, or while the tree is in the most active stage of its growth. It causes a sudden stagnation of the juices, and induces a sort of paralysis. And if the tree does not die outright, it grows no more, or but feebly, during the remainder of the season.

Yet for that moderate pruning, which alone is generally needful, June and July, and during the longest days of summer, is the very best time; for wounds of all kinds heal admirably at this period, the wood remaining sound and bright; and even a tree debarked at this season, recovers a new bark immediately.

Trees ought not to be pruned in February and March, at the time the frost is coming out of the ground. This is the season when most trees, and particularly the vine and sugar maple, bleed most copiously and injuriously. It causes inveterate canker; the wounds turn black, and the bark, for perhaps several feet below, becomes equally black, and perfectly dead, in consequence of the bleeding.

The lower side limbs of young trees in the nursery, should be gradually shortened, but not suddenly close-pruned; they are essential for a time to strengthen the trunk, and to the upright and perfect formation of the tree.—*Kenrick's New Amer. Orchardist.*

GOOSEBERRIES.

Gooseberries require a very rich soil; and in an airy situation or shade, they are but little liable to mildew. In all low lands, and in confined situations, in our climate, the fruit of the gooseberry almost invariably mildews; but never on the open hills, and in places exposed to drying winds. They are raised from cuttings planted very early in April, in a moist soil: every eye should be cut out except the two uppermost above the surface. In autumn, cut off the lower shoot very close, and shorten down the one left to six or nine inches. The bushes must be so managed as to be furnished with limbs diverging in every direction, continually increasing in number as they advance from the centre. With this object in view, the young leading shoots of the last year are annually cut back to six or nine inches, and a proportion of the others are cut quite close. Thus the bushes will continue extending, every part being duly filled with bearing wood, sufficient space being left to admit the sun and a free circulation of air. The largest prize gooseberries are raised on vigorous young bushes, which have not more than five or six branches, and but one or two, or at most three berries on a branch.—*Ibid.*

Absence of Mind.—Sir Isaac Newton, one evening in winter, feeling it extremely cold, drew his chair very close to the grate, in which a fire had been recently kindled. By degrees, the fire being completely kindled, Sir Isaac felt the heat intolerably intense, and rung his bell with unusual violence. John was not at hand; he at last made his appearance, by the time Sir Isaac was almost literally roasted. "Remove the grate, you lazy rascal!" exclaimed Sir Isaac, in a tone of irritation very uncommon with that amiable and placid philosopher, "remove the grate, before I am burned to death." "Please your honor, might you not rather *draw back your chair?*" said John, a little waggishly. "Upon my word," said Sir Isaac, smiling, "I never thought of that."—*Merry's Museum.*

REMARKS ON SEEDS AND SEEDSMEN—SOWING SEEDS, CAUSES OF FAILURE, &c.

The production of living plants from small grains of seed dropped in the earth, is one of the most wonderful and beautiful operations of Nature. When examined by the light of Science, it is found to be effected by the combined agency of earth, air, moisture and heat; and to ensure success, it is necessary that these four elements be combined in due but different proportions, according to the nature and habits of the different kinds of seeds. Hence arises the difficulty of causing some kinds to vegetate; and the uncertainty which gardeners generally feel respecting many of their crops until they see the young plants appear. Hence, also, arise most of the complaints which are made to seedsmen, and the censures which are unjustly cast upon them by inexperienced cultivators.

In order to explain this subject, and with a view to lessen the evil, the Proprietor of the Rochester Seed Store has added the testimony of several highly respectable and successful cultivators in the country, and some accounts of their methods of preparing and sowing several of the most important kinds of seeds that are liable to fail with careless management.

The Editor of the Albany Cultivator, speaking on this general subject, says :—

"Seeds often fail to grow; and the seedsman is often faulted, for vending bad seeds, when the cause of their not growing is owing to the gardener or planter. To induce germination, moisture, atmospheric air, and a certain temperature, are indispensable; and it is also requisite that light be excluded from the seed, until the nutriment of the seed is exhausted, or until the root can draw nourishment from the soil. The first effect of the air, heat, and moisture upon the seed is, to change its properties—to convert its starch into sugar—into a sort of milky pulp, the proper food of the embryo plant. If at this stage, the seed becomes dry, its vitality is believed to be destroyed; but if these agents are permitted to use their influence, the contents of the seed swell by degrees, and the first point of the future root having formed, breaks through the shell in a downward direction, and about the same time the first point of the future stem comes forth in an upward direction. The presence of the air, heat, and moisture are as indispensable to the growth of the plant, as they are to the germination of the seed.

"Now it often happens, that when seeds are planted in fresh stirred ground, or when the soil is moist, they undergo the incipient progress of fermentation, and the earth not being pressed upon them, and dry weather ensuing, the moisture is abstracted, and the seeds perish. Too much moisture is also often destructive to the vital principle of seeds—and others again are buried too deep to be vivified by solar and atmospheric influence.—The first object in planting, therefore, should be to place the seed just so far under the surface, and so to cover it with earth, as shall barely secure to it a constant supply of moisture. There are many seeds, as of the carrot, parsnip, orchard grass, &c., which if not previously steeped, or the soil well pulverized and pressed upon them, fail to grow for want of moisture. Hence, in sowing orchard grass, it is found prudent to spread it upon a floor and sprinkle it with water, before it is sown, and to pass a roller over the ground after the seed is sown; and hence, in light garden mould, it is advisable to press with the hoe or spade, the earth upon all light seeds after they are sown."

On Sowing Flower Seeds.

David Thomas, an experienced and very successful Florist remarks :—N. G. Farmer, vol 1, p. 56.

"For large seeds, like the Bean or the Pea, a coarse soil is well adapted, as they can force their way to the surface from any moderate depth: but small seeds require different treatment; and we lay it down as a safe rule, the finer the seed, the finer should be the soil.

How does Nature, exemplifying Supreme Wisdom, sow her most delicate seeds? She scatters them on the shady ground, trusting to the rain or the frost to cover them, (of course slightly,) and they germinate before the sun has acquired power enough to scorch them. The dust-like seeds of the Orchis and Cypripedium sometimes grow in beds of damp moss.

Common garden loam, whether clayey or sandy, is much improved by a dressing of vegetable earth from the woods, well mixed before planting. If prepared in the preceding autumn, and pulverized by the frost, all the better.

Such a soil is favorable to seeds of almost any kind, but *essential* to the finer and more delicate sorts. The preparation of the soil alone, however, is not enough. Fine seeds may be smothered if covered from more than one-eighth to half an inch deep; and their short roots may be parched if exposed to the sun except in morning and evening. To a *fine soil*, therefore, we must add the protection of *shade*, and in time of drought, a regular supply of *moisture*. If the seeds are sown in an open border, a sprinkling of water in the evenings is best, but carefully abstain from applying so much as will bake the ground."

On Preparing and Sowing Onion Seed.

W. Risley—(N. G. Farmer, vol. 2, page 38,) says :

"First, soak the seeds in water from six to twentyfour hours—some seeds being slower to admit moisture than others, is the difference in the time required. After soaking, drain off the water, and mix the seeds with a sufficient quantity of earth to absorb the moisture remaining on the seeds; stir them often that they may vegetate evenly, and keep them in a moderate degree of warmth and moisture until they are sprouted, when they are ready to put into the ground. If the weather should be unfavorable, put the seeds in a cool place, which will check their growth. * *

It was left in that situation until the time of sowing. In April, as soon as the soil was sufficiently dry, the ploughing was commenced, and the second day, at night, the sowing was finished, with seed prepared as before stated. *In one week the onions were up*, rows were soon visible near twenty rods, and no weeds yet appeared. The operation of stirring the soil with rakes and hoes was then commenced, and the weeds were not suffered to grow during the summer. (It is a mistaken notion that it is not time to hoe a garden until it is green with weeds.) The first of September the onions were harvested, and the product was over *two thousand bushels* of fine onions from two and a half acres."

On Soaking Mangel Wurtzel Seed.

J. Rapaljee says, (N. G. Farmer, vol. 1, p. 149,) "I prepared half an acre of land for Mangel Wurtzel, and obtained the seed from your agent at Canandaigua. After soaking the seed one day, I commenced sowing; but rain came on, and the soil being rather clayey, it was a whole week before I could sow the remainder. The seed was soaked all this time, and supposing it was spoiled or injured, I sowed it thicker than usual, and had not enough to finish the ground. Accordingly I sent to the same place and got more seed, and sowed the remainder without any soaking; so that part of my ground was sowed with seed soaked one day, another part one week, and a third part not all.

Now for the result :—The part soaked one week, came up first, and much too thickly;—the part soaked one day, came up slowly and very thinly; while the part not soaked, did not come up at all. Thus showing conclusively, the necessity of thoroughly soaking these seeds, and the little danger there is to be apprehended from soaking too long. I am confident that inattention to this subject, is the most frequent cause of the failure of the Mangel Wurtzel and Sugar Beet seeds."

William Garbutt, (N. G. Far. vol. 1. 20,) says, "Much complaint is sometimes made of Mangel Wurtzel and Sugar Beet seed failing to grow. These seeds are not quite as sure of vegetation as some kinds; still, if rightly prepared, and sown when the ground is in good condition, before the weather becomes too dry, they will very seldom fail. The seed should be *soaked* in soft water, standing in a warm place, *for three or four days* before sowing. The shell of the seed is very hard, and requires a long time soaking for it to become softened so that the germ can burst it open. I have sometimes known it fail after being soaked, owing to late sowing and dry weather."

Planting too deeply.—In vol. 1, p. 97, W. R. Smith states that he "planted half an acre of Mangel Wurtzel with two pounds of seed from the Rochester Seed Store. In a few days some scattering plants made their appearance. * * * Well, nearly two weeks after, I was surprised to find a fair number of plants just peeping through, and from their weak and thin appearance, evidently wearied with their journey to the surface, which they never could have reached, if the soil had not been light."

Parsnip, Carrot, Celery and Parsley Seeds are all slow to vegetate, and if sown late and dry weather succeeds, they will not often come up. These seeds should be sown early, in fine soil, rolled or pressed down and kept moist. Mr. Geo. Sheffer of Wheatland, raises large quantities of carrots for feeding. He soaks the seed 48 hours, then rolls it in plaster, and when sown covers it from one half to three quarters of an inch deep. (N. G. Far. vol. 2, p. 181.)

Cucumber, Melon and Squash Seed their vitality by age or otherwise, seldom lose they often fail to grow, owing but when sown cold or wet. These, and to the grond being invariably rot if sown some other seeds, will is sufficiently war too early—before the ground *Corn* often fail from the same causes. *Lima Beans and Sweet*

Egg Plant Seed will not vegetate in the open ground—it requires a good hot-bed.

Locust Seed must be thoroughly scalded, by pouring boiling hot water and letting it soak 24 hours.—*New Genesee Farmer.*

Live for others, that others may live for thee.

For the N. E. Farmer.

FAILURE OF RUTA BAGAS—CAUSE OF.

Mr Editor—I agree with your correspondent R. R. P., in his communication which was published in the N. E. Farmer of Jan 20th, 1841—so far at least as to believe with him that much "light may be elicited by farmers publishing their failures," provided that like your ingenuous correspondent, they give a detailed account of the circumstances which preceded and accompanied those failures.

Mr R. R. P. wishes to know why his crops of ruta baga failed, and he says he will be very much gratified, if you or some of your correspondents can tell him the cause of his failure, and the remedy.

Some manures seem to be too much concentrated and too strong for the tender roots of vegetables, and thus seem to occasion the root to rot. So a diet which consisted wholly of fat meat and spices, without sauce, would sicken the human stomach. And Professor Webster says, in the appendix to Liebig's Organic Chemistry of Agriculture and Physiology, "that ammonia, in the state of carbonate, and in solution with water, has a great effect in stimulating plants, has long been known to gardeners, but they also well know, that the plant so treated, soon perishes. It would seem to be an analogous case to that of plants stimulated by chlorine, but not supplied with a proportionally increased allowance of food." Liebig, p. 411.

I have planted melons and some other vines in hills, which were plentifully manured, some with fish, and some with night soil, and have had the plants come up *remarkably* large, and to appearance, remarkably thrifty; but in a few days they began to fail, and they all died, and on examination I found that the roots had rotted off. In these cases I found no remedy which would restore the plants. I supposed they died from having the manure too strong. But afterwards I prevented the like evil, when I used unmixed night soil in the hill as a manure for my vines, in the following manner. I dug a circular ditch, about 5 or 6 inches deep, and which enclosed an area of about two feet in diameter. Into this little ditch I put night soil, and covered it with earth: I then planted a *plenty of seeds* in every part of the area, which was enclosed by the ditch, and when the plants came up, I thinned them out, by taking those which were the least vigorous, but still leaving a superabundant supply in the hill. After a few days, I again thinned out the plants in the same manner, and in this way I finally saved a full supply of vigorous plants in every hill. The strong manure was continually growing weaker, and the plants were at liberty to send their roots and to draw from the manure which was laid in the ditch, or to draw it from other places, as best suited them, and in this way the plants did well, and made good crops, though we used manure which was very strong. At other times when I wished to use large quantities of very strong manure, I have succeeded in growing good crops, by plowing the manure in, very deep. And when I have plowed in large quantities of fish, or other very strong and volatile manures, very deep, the crops for a number of years afterwards, always gave a satisfactory account of the deep buried manure. The amount of very strong manure which a crop can bear, to advantage, will be proportioned, not only to the depth at which it is plowed in, but also to the humidity or dryness of the season and of the soil.

We will not attempt to show all the causes which operate to make beets, turnips and potatoes grow hollow; but we have generally found that those which were planted in a rich soil and grew very thrifty, were the most apt to rot, and grow hollow.

In 1839, Mr R. R. P. applied poudrette to his land, and in 1840, he says he found many of his ruta baga turnips *punctured*, and in some of them he found *white maggots*, about the size of the largest of those which we usually see in cheese.

Now, Mr Editor, it is well known that there are several different kinds of worms, which sometimes attack the roots of vegetables, but we should not have room, in this communication to describe the whole of them, if we had the ability. Yet the worms which R. R. P. describes, seem to have had a very near resemblance to the worms which used to attack the roots of my cabbages, when I used a kind of poudrette, the manufacture and use of which is described in the N. E. Farmer, vol. xvi. No. 6, page 43, published Aug. 16th, 1837. In those cases, if the night soil which I used in making the poudrette, lay uncovered with earth for a day or two in the summer season, so that it was exposed to the action of a small kind of fly, which seemed to delight in it. The roots of the cabbages which grew in the hills which were manured with this kind of poudrette, were invariably attacked with a small white worm, of nearly or quite the same shape and size of those which we usually see in cheese, and I have never seen cabbages which were not manured with poudrette, attacked with this kind of worms. These worms, I supposed, were the larvæ of the small flies before referred to, and which may perhaps be the same kind of fly which makes the maggots which we usually see in cheese. A number of these worms, larvæ, or maggots, would fix themselves to the root of a cabbage and eat into it, on every side, and they would frequently eat it quite off. And corn which was manured in the hlil, with poudrette, which had been exposed to the action of these flies, generally had a smaller proportion of roots than other corn. Perhaps this same kind of flies, acting upon the poudrette or other manures which were used by R. R. P., were the cause of the worms, which punctured and destroyed his ruta baga turnips. When the worms did not prevent it, the poudrette produced a growth of cabbages much more luxuriant than we have produced by the use of any other kind of manure. It therefore seemed very desirable that we should find a remedy for the mischief which the worms occasioned us. And we have repeatedly tried the following method, and have always found it to be *uniformly* and *completely successful.*

First with a hoe make a little ridge around the plant, and at a little distance from it, so that water which was poured on to the plant, would be prevented from running away, till it was absorbed by the earth about the roots of the plants. Then take caustic, unslacked or recently slacked lime, and mix it with water, at the rate of 6 or 8 quarts of lime to a barrel of water, and then pour from half a pint to a pint of the lime and water on to each plant. This has always destroyed the little rebels, very effectually, and has saved the plants. And we think this course would probably have destroyed the worms in the ruta bagas of your correspondent. If R. R. P. objects that the remedy would have been too expensive, we reply that three or four casks of caustic lime would probably have been sufficient to destroy the worms on an acre. If he objects that it would have been a laborious operation, we admit that it would have been somewhat laborious; but we think that saving half an acre of ruta bagas on land which was prepared as R. R. P. had prepared his, would pay for some labor. And it is sometimes a gratification to know how a thing *may* be done, even if we do not think proper to do it.

If he objects to this explanation of the production of the worms, by saying that the worms were not discovered in the ruta bagas till the next year after the poudrette was put on to the land, we reply that the skippers, maggots, larva or worms, which flies make in cheese, it is well known remain a long time in the cheese, before they fly away, and the worms which ate *our* cabbage roots, did not do their work, till the next year after the poudrette was manufactured. If he says the lime which he had already used on the land, ought to have prevented the depredations of the worms, we reply that it is only on lime in its *caustic state*, that we place any reliance for the destruction of the worms. The lime of R. R. P. was put on to the land before the poudrette; and even *caustic* lime, when applied to land which was as highly manured as was the piece which R. R. P. describes, we suppose would very soon acquire carbon enough to deprive the lime of its causticity, and to render it mild, and consequently the lime would not then be in the condition which we have supposed was necessary to destroy the worms.

Other causes besides strong manures, and the worms, may have occasioned R. R. P.'s ruta bagas to rot, but if it should appear that the poudrette which he spread on his land, was manufactured in the year 1839,—especially if it was manufactured without caustic lime, we think it very natural that it should have been infested with the larva of the fly before mentioned. And also, that the larva which was contained in the poudrette, should be productive of mischief in 1840.

I hope, Mr Editor, that these remarks, will not deter farmers from giving poudrette a fair trial. Though my poudrette was very valuable, those who remember the manner in which it was formed, will recollect that it contained no lime. Perhaps the addition of sulphate of lime, (plaster of Paris,) to the night soil according to the suggestion of Dr. Liebig, would not only remove its fetor, but would also increase its fertilizing power. Perhaps the plaster would also prevent the fly from depositing its larva, and would thus prevent the mischief, for I have never seen the fly attempt to deposite its larva in the poudrette after it had become inodorous. But it is believed that the poudrette may be effectually prevented from producing the worms before mentioned, by covering with earth the night soil which is used in its manufacture, before the flies have had access to it.

I remain, yours, very respectfully,

ASA M. HOLT.

East Haddam, Conn., Feb. 1841.

P. S.—The foregoing was for a long time mislaid, but perhaps it may not be thought altogether useless, I therefore forward it, though it seems somewhat out of season.

Yours, &c. A. M. H.

East Haddam, Conn., Feb. 21st, 1842.

No two things differ more than *hurry* and *despatch.*

From the Albany Cultivator.

ON THE CULTURE OF THE POTATO.

Messrs. Gaylord & Tucker—Observing an article in your paper, written by a person on the banks of the Hudson, on the subject of raising that valuable crop, the Potato, I am induced from my experience in the potato way, with due deference however, in all probability to his better judgment, and perhaps to his more practical knowledge, to offer you a few remarks.

Being of the opinion that a sward plowed in the spring, say the last of April, is all important to the preservation of the crop, during a severe drought, I am extremely careful that the sward should be plowed and harrowed so as to exclude the air, and as deep as it may be done, in order that it may rapidly decay, to afford not only nutriment to the roots of the vines while growing, but add by its sudden decay to the moisture of the ground, so essentially necessary in case of a drought, that being generally ruinous to the potato crop, and against which we should endeavor to guard. My premises may be wrong as to the use of the sward plowed in the spring. To test which, 1st. I will inquire whether a sod would decay so soon and well in cold weather as warm? 2d. Whether, if as well, that object *thus obtained* can be of equal benefit to the crop, as the consumption of the soil would be, if going on during the growth of the vine and root of the plant? 3d. Will not a stiff sward, well plowed under, (as deep as may be,) and harrowed over in such way that every part of the soil shall not only be excluded from the eye, but the ground absolutely closed and smooth, if plowed just before planting, and not disturbed by furrowing, be the means of retaining moisture not only from rains and dews to fall thereon, but by prohibiting evaporation through the sod from the ground thus covered and under the sod, which in the spring of the year must be necessarily moist? 4th. I am also to inquire whether the ground will be equally strong, plowed in the month of September, after being exposed to the evaporation of the sun and winds from that month, beside the freezing and thawing of the winter, as the same ground would be for a summer crop, turned up just before planting, setting aside the difficulty of my friend's cross plowing of the sward in the spring? 5th. I am to inquire whether your lot will be equally well fitted to plow in the spring, (the sward having been turned up in the fall,) taking into consideration that by your fall plowing you have most probably stopped or closed up the necessary small furrows, which were made to lead off the water found on all grass lands? If laid down by a good and practical farmer, I contend *the sward thus laid down* will be in a much better condition to plow *in a wet spring*, than if it had been previously plowed in the fall.

In addition, I would further inquire whether there is not a loss of time, labor, interest of land, and sacrifice of manure, in promoting the culture of your crop by plowing your sward in the month of September, as stated by our friend on the banks of the Hudson—1st. I save time by one plowing: that to be performed immediately before planting. 2d. The labor of my team, as I not only make one plowing answer, but the land will be in better order, and my team will have done the work with much more ease, in consequence of the sward plowing easier in the spring than in the month of September, or fall of the year, as nine times out of ten, your sward is too dry to plow with ease to your team in the fall of the year. 3d. By plowing your sward in September for a summer crop, you lose the interest of the land by sacrificing the natural growth of your grass, during the fall, which if left to grow and plowed under in the spring or fed off in the last of the preceding fall, leaving the manure thereon, would unquestionably in either case, add to the culture and value of the spring crop. 4th. If my premises, in preparing the ground by spring plowing, are correct, I apprehend the application of manure and mode of cultivation I have adopted in raising this valuable crop, will *by some* be considered not altogether improper. In using the manure, (which I contend should never be put under the sod,) I have no hesitation in saying, it should be applied in such way as to immediately and advantageously operate on the present crop of potatoes—to effect which I plow my sward at such time in the spring as to finish the piece just before planting—to be plowed and harrowed as stated, to plant in hills about two and a half feet apart, by furrows made without disturbing the sod thus plowed. This can be done by harrowing your sod with a hinge harrow, first and second time in the same way it was plowed; that is by beginning as you began to plow, then to cross harrow so soon as the potatoes start, then apply the manure by top dressing each hill—the same to be immediately plowed by horse and small plow, commencing by turning the furrow from the hill, going as close as possible, not only to loosen the ground, but to cut up weeds, (if any,) which are scarcely found on sward land thus managed; this to be immediately followed by the second plow, turning the furrow to the hill, from the centre (between furrows) so as not only to cover the potatoes, but the manure thus put on the hill, protecting the same from the rays of the sun—this to be done both ways of the rows of hills. At the end of eight or ten days, plow them again, turning the furrow towards the hill, and as deep as you can, both ways, leaving the greater part of the sod undisturbed, through which the roots will find their way—you then have your hill left in the shape of a hollow square to receive the rains—and that without a hoe, saving the ends of your field, thus finishing the culture. I have raised by the above method from 300 to 330 bushels to the acre, in lots from three to five acres, and that of Kidneys, the most difficult to raise of any other potatoe. Should you deem the method of any consequence to the farming interest, give the enclosed a notice in your useful paper, being the only object of the writer, of which he assures a Westchester Farmer. Columbia.

Claverack, N. Y. Jan. 18, 1842.

GRASS AND HAY IN FRANKLIN COUNTY, MASSACHUSETTS.

Grasses.—Grass may be considered as the principal crop. In the hill towns, and what may be called the uplands, the artificial grasses are cultivated, such as clover, (*trifolium pratense,*) herds-grass or timothy, (*phleum pratense,*) and red-top, (*agrostis vulgaris.*) In general, three pecks of red-top, one of herds-grass, and four to six pounds of clover-seed are sown, when land, which has been cultivated, is laid down to grass. The land is laid down with some grain, either wheat, rye or oats; and the grass-seed is sown with the grain. Barley is scarcely grown at all in the country.

The clover predominates the first year; the herds-grass the second. The clover is nearly extinct at the end of the second year; and the red-top, intermixed with various natural grasses, which spring up spontaneously, furnishes a permanent matting to the soil. In general, not nearly enough seed, particularly of herds-grass, is sown. The consequence is, that the product is very coarse the first and second year, which it would not be, if treble the quantity of seed were sown. Several farmers in the State, whose authority is entitled to respect, practise a much more liberal mode of sowing; and find an advantage in doing it in the improved quality of the hay. The average yield the first year is from two to three tons; the second it may be estimated at two tons; and for a continuance of three years after that, in favorable seasons and locations, it may be rated at one to one and a quarter ton per year. These lands in general, are mowed once only in a season. There is an instance in Conway, of a piece of moist land lying at the side and foot of a hill, where the soil is deep, being a rich mould, resting upon a substratum inclined to clay, on which, by copious top-dressings of barn manure, the product has been kept up, and averages yearly nearly three tons to the acre. Of peat lands, I know of no considerable tracts in the county; and, as yet, no great attention has been paid to the draining, either by open or under-ground drains, of wet lands. The quantity of this kind of lands is not considerable; but such improvements, where required, would be amply compensated.

The next quality of grass lands are the alluvions on the Deerfield and the Connecticut rivers, and small patches on their tributary streams. The alluvial lands on the Connecticut are rarely over-flowed, excepting at the breaking up of winter; and they are, therefore, subjected to a course of cultivation the same as other arable lands. The rotation on these lands is commonly the first year corn, or potatoes with manure; the same the second year, and the third year oats, peas and oats, rye or wheat, with grass.

The low alluvial lands on the Deerfield meadows essentially differ from these, from a circumstance already alluded to. They require no manure, and being entirely alluvial and receiving the richest deposites, are of extraordinary and inexhaustible fertility. An example has been given to me of the product of one of these low meadows in Deerfield, containing nine acres, at a place called Old Fort.

The first crop of hay was	25,325 lbs.
" Second crop,	15,120 "
	40,445 lbs.
The hay was sold and delivered as soon as cured, at $9 per ton,	$182 00
The fall feed sold for	4 50
	$186 50
The whole labor was performed by contract at four dollars per acre for both crops,	36 00
Leaving a balance in favor of the land of	$150 50

The hay was considered as sold at a low rate. The same quality of hay in the following winter, brought 13 dollars per ton.—*Colman's Fourth Report.*

The Northampton Courier says the trees in that vicinity appear as if it were the middle of April.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,
AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

BOSTON, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 1842.

SUBSOIL PLOWING.

But little is yet known in this country of the effect of stirring the subsoil of the fields we cultivate. Our readers well know that in England the practice has been very decidedly advantageous. But there, *underdraining* generally precedes the subsoil plowing. They have in old England a heavier soil than most of ours, and their skies are more watery than those which bend over New England. Consequently our practices must be in many respects different from those of the English farmers. While we have many spots that require under draining, it is doubtless true that it would be far from economical to under-drain the mass of the fields of this country. They are, in their natural state, so dry as not to suffer from excessive moisture, while the relative price of labor and land here, the former high and the latter low, compared with English rates, is a sufficient reason why we may not infer that a mode of operation which pays well there, would involve us in loss.

The objection against general under-draining, does not lie with equal force against subsoil plowing. The latter is comparatively a cheap operation, not costing more than from four to six dollars per acre. In the vicinity of Boston, the question may be a very simple one, and settled by a cheap experiment. Will an acre of land, well subsoiled and dressed with six cords of good manure, produce as much in the course of crops from one breaking up to another, as the same acre would yield if not subsoiled, but dressed with seven cords of manure? This question is not settled here, and it cannot be until years have elapsed. We cannot give facts as yet which will serve as a satisfactory basis of an argument in favor of subsoil plowing generally. But we saw several different crops last season, upon ground that had the subsoil plow run through it in the spring, and as well as we could judge by the eye, the crops on this land were eight or ten per cent. larger here than on the contiguous land treated otherwise the same. But independently of these imperfect experiments, an argument, and as we judge, a strong one, may be given in favor of stirring the earth below where our plows usually run.

Whoever has noticed heaps of earth that have been thrown up where wells have been dug, or where ditches and trenches have been cut, knows that the earth which has been thus moved, is far less barren than similar earth lying in its original state. Simply throwing over soils, increases their fertility. Subsoil plowing, loosening up the pan, will bring new particles in contact, will facilitate the circulation of air, and cause some chemical action. Where such action takes place, the plants generally find nourishment.

But the most obvious fact connected with this process, and the one which common farmers will most regard, is yet to be stated. Every plowman knows, that in all old fields which have been plowed many times, and at a nearly uniform depth, a hard pan or crust is formed by the rubbing of the bottom of the plow and by the treading of the cattle in the furrow. This pan operates to keep the surface waters from descending freely in times of copious rains, and it also breaks up that communication between the upper soil and the subsoil which favors the drawing up of water from below, sponge wise, in times of drought. It blows hot and cold with the same breath: in other words, if you break up that crust at the bottom of the furrow, your land will be less wet when the great rains come, and will be more moist during the dry periods of summer. The principle is precisely the same as that which lets the water run through the sponge if you put upon it more than it can hold by its attraction, and which at the same time lets the sponge, if not very wet, take up water to all its parts, if you hold one end of it in water.

This view of the matter is given in the hope that many will be induced the present season to test the value of this operation. Subsoil plows of different patterns, may be had at the principal agricultural warehouses in Boston. Mr Howard has two patterns for sale at Messrs. J. Breck & Co.'s Warehouse, either of which will do its work well, and to any depth you choose, not exceeding ten inches below the bottom of the common furrow. But these can be worked only by a strong team; four or six large oxen are needed.

We have a plan for stirring the subsoil a little by the use of a less expensive implement. The land on which we propose to use it, is free from stones, and is rather loose than tenacious. We have looked at the cultivator tooth, and find it six inches long or more. We propose to take a stick of hard wood timber four or five feet long, and insert a cultivator tooth near one end, and the wheel of a plow near the other. To this timber we will fix a handle or handles, and make this answer our purpose on some of our lands. The work will be but imperfectly done—but as we can do this with the team that is needed to plow the surface, we shall adopt it out of mercy to our oxen and our purse. We mention the plan, thinking that possibly some one on some rainy day may fix for himself a simple tool of the kind. We are induced to hope some good will result from this scratching in the bottom of the furrow, partly by a statement made to us by Mr Bement, of Albany. After he had furrowed or marked out his corn ground last spring, he drew some simple hook or iron prong along in the bottom of each furrow. His corn continued green through the drought, while that in his neighbors' fields rolled and almost perished. The difference in the appearance of this field and others in the vicinity, was so great as to induce travellers to stop and inquire the cause. Mr B. could assign no other cause than that slight and imperfect subsoiling to which he resorted. This course might be imitated at a very trifling cost.

[Communicated.]

A MUCK MANUAL FOR FARMERS. BY SAMUEL L. DANA. Lowell: Daniel Bixby, 1842. Duodecimo, pp. 242.

This is said to be "the pith of eight lectures on the Chemistry of Soil and Manure," delivered at the request of some citizens in Lowell, to whom the work is inscribed. It has for its motto the following sentence from Lord Bacon—"It is usual to help the ground with muck, and likewise to recompost with muck, put to the roots; but to water it with muck-water, which is like to be more forcible, is not practised." That text contains a glimpse of the philosophy of the book before us, and we have a learned and a highly practical sermon. Indeed, this is in truth a book for farmers. Its title—the manner in which it is printed, (by sections, each of a few lines, for sake of easy reference)—its perfectly intelligible style—the happy and perspicuous application of great principles of chemistry to the commonest processes of agriculture—the work, also, of a sagacious, clear-headed, practical chemist, of long experience, and independent habits of thought,—these considerations recommend it as a book for farmers—for *all* farmers. A "Manual" it is called—and we believe that farmers who study their own interests, will have it in their hands, and will fix its great principles in their minds.

Dr. Dana is chemist to the Calico Works belonging to the Merrimack Corporation in Lowell. It is well known that cow dung has been extensively used in calico establishments to fix the colors. In attempting to find what it was that gave this property to cow dung, Dr. Dana was led to an extensive analysis of manures. The bearing which his results have upon agriculture, is set forth in this book. Many of his positions are opposed to the doctrines of the times. We suppose they will meet doubt and "repudiation." But what we would say to our intelligent farmers is, read and reflect for yourselves. The whole matter is here laid before you in a nut-shell. Bring it to the test of one of those simple experiments herein detailed, which every man who has a patch of ground can easily make for himself.—Perhaps your experience will be like that of some practical farmers whose letters are given in the Appendix. Should it be so, it would be difficult to estimate the value to our agricultural interest which this little book is destined to contribute. A CONSTANT READER.

We have not yet had the pleasure of seeing the work which a friend describes in the preceding communication. But the subject is highly important, and the author's well known skill leads us to expect to find in the book much valuable information.—ED.

CATTLE—ATTENTION TO THEM NOW.

Lice.—See that all lice upon your oxen and cows be destroyed forthwith. Recently we quoted from some other paper a statement which averred that water *in which potatoes have been boiled*, will kill cattle-lice: if this be true, it is a cheap and safe remedy. The suds of whale oil soap are found destructive to these pests. There are many other remedies, some of which are known to every farmer. We are not anxious to prescribe any particular remedy—but our purpose is to enjoin it upon every owner of lousy stock, to apply to their backs something, that will destroy the lice: we urge it rs a matter of compassion and of profit. Do save the speechless brutes from the itchings and irritations which the lice cause, from mercy to the beasts themselves—do it also because the lousy brutes will not thrive as well as others.

The Cards.—Let the card be often and faithfully applied at this season of the year, not to the ox only, but to the cow also; and if it find its way to the hog's back, it will do him no harm.

Care in Feeding.—Feed your stock carefully and well—keeping them from falling away at the coming on of warm weather, when the appetite often decreases, and the animals lose flesh unless well tended.

Cows about to Calve.—Cows that are soon to calve, should be well fed upon good, but *dry* food. Much inflammation in the udder is often caused by feeding upon roots, meal, or the like before the calf has been dropped. There is no advantage in distending the bag by such feeding. The painful distension produces a feverish habit, and often does permanent injury to the cow *as a milker*. After the calf is ready to draw the milk and take off the hardness of the udder, food may be given freely of such kind as will cause a copious flow of milk.

There is one great principle which with the farmer should have due weight allowed it, and that is, looking for happiness at home; and perhaps there is no one thing, *out of the house*, more conducive to this, than a well arranged and well cultivated garden. The farmer should remember that every tree, shrub and flower he cultivates, constitutes a new link of attachment to bind him to his home, and render that home more delightful. —*Alb. Cult.*

THERMOMETRICAL.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

Range of the Thermometer at the Garden of the proprietors of the New England Farmer, Brighton, Mass. in a shaded Northerly exposure, for the week ending March 13.

March, 1842.		6,A.M.	12, M.	6,P.M.	Wind.
Monday,	7	33	39	38	N. E.
Tuesday,	8	28	39	37	N.
Wednesday,	9	36	51	43	S. W.
Thursday,	10	38	66	57	S. W.
Friday,	11	38	36	32	N. E.
Saturday,	12	18	25	27	N. W.
Sunday,	13	24	35	36	S. W.

BRIGHTON MARKET.—Monday, March 14, 1842.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

At Market 270 Beef Cattle, 20 pairs Working oxen, 10 Cows and Calves, 300 Sheep, and 420 Swine.

Prices.—*Beef Cattle.* We noticed a few choice cattle taken at $6. First quality, $5 50 a 5 75. Second quality, $4 75 a 5 25. Third quality, $3 75 a 4 50.

Working Oxen.—We noticed the following sales $67, 70, 75, and 97.

Sheep.—Several lots sold; prices to us not known.

Swine.—Selected lots to peddle 4 for sows and 5 for barrows, a lot to close, 3 1-2 and 4 1-2. At retail, from 4 1-2 to 6.

Cows and Calves. Sales $18, 22, 25, 28, and 30.

WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT.

Corrected with great care, weekly.

SEEDS. Herds Grass, $2 50 to 3 00 per bushel. Red Top, 45 to 50 cents. Clover—Northern, 11 to 12c.—Southern, 11 to 12 c. Flax Seed, $1 80 to 1 85 bu. Lucerne, 25 c. per lb. Canary Seed, $3 50 a 4 50 per bushel.

GRAIN. The sales of the week have been several cargoes yellow flat Corn at 56 a 58; and white 50 a 51c. per bushel; northern round, which is scarce, 65c; Oats, few in market, 3000 bushels Delaware sold at 46 1-2c per bushel; Rye, last sale 82c.

Corn—Northern, bushel — to — —do. Round Yellow — a — —do. Southern Flat Yellow 57 a 58—White do. 50 a 51—Barley — a — —Rye, Northern, 75 a — —Oats, Southern 45 a 47—Northern do. 48 to 49—Beans, per bushel 75 a 1 50.

FLOUR. Genesee we quote $6 44 a $6 50; Ohio, $6 a 6 12, common brands, cash.

Baltimore, Howard Street, 4 mos. cr. $6 00 a — —do. wharf, $5 75 a 6 00 do. free of garlic, $6 00 a — — Philadelphia do. 4 mos. $5 87 a — — Fredericksburg, lowl'd 4 mos. $5 87 a — —Alexandria, wharf mountain,— — a — —Georgetown, $6 00 a 6 12—Richmond Canal, $6 00 a — —do. City, $6 75—Petersburgh, City Mills, $6 00 a 6 25—do. Country $5 75 a 5 87—Genesee, common, cash, $6 44 a 6 50—do fancy brands $6 50 a 6 56 — Ohio via Canal, $6 25 a 6 37—Indian Meal in bbls., $3 00 a 3 25.

PROVISIONS. Sales by auction, the following parcels: 200 bbls Mess Pork, 8 50 a $8 75 per bbl; 50 do Clear do, $11 50 do; 100 do Prime, $6 25; 70 do Chimes and Rumps, $6; 50 do do, Clear, $10 75; 44 do Mess, $8 a 8 25; 39 do Prime, $5 per bbl. 4 mos; 75 bbls. Western Beef, old, 4 50 a $4 75 do do.

Beef—Mess, 4 mo. new bbl. $9 25 a 9 50—Navy—$8 00 a 8 50—No. $1 7 50 a 7 75—do Prime $5 00 a 5 50—Pork—Extra clear, 4 mo. bbl. $12 a 12 50—do Clear $11 a 11 50—do Mess $9 00 a 9 50—do Prime $7 00 a 8 00—do Mess from other States — a —

WOOL. Duty. The value whereof at the place of exportation shall not exceed 8 cts. per pound, free. All whereof the value exceeds 8 cts. per pound, 32 per ct. ad. val. and 4 cts. per pound.

No important operations have been made in this article during the week, and for most descriptions former prices are continued.

Prime or Saxony Fleeces, washed, lb. 47 a 50 c.—American full blood, do 43 a 46—Do. 3-4 do 40 a 41—Do. 1-2 do 35 a 37—1-4 and common do 30 a 32—Smyrna Sheep, washed, 20 a 26— Do. unwashed, 10 a 14—Bengasi do 8 a 10—Saxony, clean, — Buenos Ayres unpicked, 7 a 10—do. do. picked, 12 a 16—Superfine Northern pulled lamb 37 a 42—No. 1 do. do. do. 35 a 37—No. 2 do do do 25 a 30—No. 3 do do do 18 a 20.

HOPS. No change exists, and sales are extremely limited.

1st sort, Mass. 1841 per lb 12 a 13.

HAY, per ton, $20 to 25—Eastern Screwed $19 to 20.

CHEESE—Shipping and 4 meal, 4 to 6c.—New 5 to 8.

EGGS, 16 a 25.

LINNÆN BOTANIC GARDEN AND NURSERY.

FLUSHING, L. I. NEAR NEW YORK.

(*Late of Messrs. Prince.*)

The new Proprietors of this long established and well known Nursery, late the property of William Prince, Esq., and comprising the premises occupied and cultivated by him as a Nursery for nearly fifty years, intend not only to spare no pains or expense to maintain the ancient celebrity of this establishment for its unrivalled collection of Trees, Shrubs and Plants, but to endeavor to merit the confidence and patronage of the public, by integrity and liberality in dealing, and moderation in charges. Being one of the oldest Nurseries in the United States, founded upwards of half a century since, and great pains and expense having for a long series of years been bestowed by the late proprietor, in procuring and cultivating every thing that was valuable, it no doubt contains at the present time a more extensive collection of Trees, Shrubs, Plants, etc.,—variety as well as quantity being considered,—than can be found elsewhere in the United States. They now offer for sale,

FRUIT AND ORNAMENTAL TREES,

Evergreens, Flowering Shrubs, and Herbaceous Plants, Bulbous Flower Roots, splendid Dahlias, of the latest varieties, etc. Ornamental Trees and Evergreens of an extra size can be supplied. A liberal discount will be made on large orders.

It is hoped that the public will not be misled by the attempt to transfer the name by which this Nursery has been distinguished for forty years, to a piece of ground purchased expressly and used principally for the purpose of a private residence, another small detached piece to which Mr. Prince Sen., has recently removed, which was cultivated as a Nursery before the Revolution, but has not been for many years past, except to propogate Morus Multicaulis, and to another piece purchased only four years since. The Proprietors have no wish to refer to the name of, or in any wise to interfere with, the late proprietor, further than is indispensably necessary in strict justice to themselves, to wit: to identify the premises, make known the change of ownership, and to have the benefit of the reputation of this long established, extensive, and well known Nursery as such, and which they purpose not only to continue, but to increase; and they will endeavor, and confidently hope by vigorous exertion and a liberal expenditure, to continue such reputation for the Nursery, and by strict integrity and liberality in dealing to establish one for *themselves*.

Orders addressed to the subscriber, the conductor of the establishment for the present proprietors, will be promptly attended to. New Catalogues at *reduced prices* furnished gratis.

The subscriber also offers for sale a general assortment of Garden, Field, and Flower Seeds, in large or small quantities, warranted *genuine* and *fresh*.

March 16. 2w G. R. GARRETSON.

GARDEN AND FIELD SEEDS.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO. have received their full supply of Garden and Field Seeds, which they warrant to be pure and fresh, as follows:

Early Cedo Nulli Peas.	Early Horn do.
" Warwick do.	Mangel Wurtzel Beet.
" Dwarf do.	Sugar do.
" Washington do.	Long Red do.
" Frame do.	Early Turnip do.
Blue Imperial do.	Ruta Baga.
Marrowfat, &c.	Turnips in great variety.
White Altringham Carrot	Early and Late Beans of
Long Orange do.	sorts.

FRUIT, ORNAMENTAL TREES, &c.

NURSERY OF WILLIAM KENRICK,

Of *Peach, Pear, Plum and Cherry Trees*, a collection unrivalled in any former year, for extensive numbers of fine trees, of new and finest kinds. Large additions of new, valuable, or beautiful, are just received from Europe.

Gooseberries of first quality, Apples, Quinces, Grape Vines, Raspberries, Currents, Strawberries, &c. The new abridged and descriptive Catalogue for 1842, will be sent to all who apply.

Ornamental Trees and Shrubs, Honeysuckles, &c. Splendid varieties of double yellow Harrison and other Roses—of Tree Pæonies, of Herbaceous Pæonies, and other flowering Plants—of double Dahlias, &c., Rhubarb of first rate newest kinds, Cockspur, Thorns, &c.

All orders addressed to the subscriber, will be promptly attended to, and Trees when so ordered, will be securely packed in mats and moss for safe transport to all distant places by land or sea, and delivered in the city free of charge, for transportation by the wagon which is sent thither daily, or orders may be left at the stand, at No. 44 Congress street, Boston.

WILLIAM KENRICK

Nonantum Hill, Newton.

March 9. eptl2thJune

SITUATION WANTED

AS GARDNER—by one that has served a regular apprenticeship in Europe, and has had seven years' experience in this country. The best of reference given. Address J. D. at this office. March 9.

HOWARD'S IMPROVED EASY DRAUGHT PLOUGH.

Great improvements have been made the past year in the form and workmanship of these Ploughs; the mould board has been so formed as to *lay the furrow completely over, turning in every particle of grass or stubble, and leaving the ground in the best possible manner.* The length of the mould board has been very much increased, so that the Plough works with the greatest ease, both with respect to the holding and the team. The Committee at the late trial of Ploughs at Worcester, say,

"Should our opinion be asked as to which of the Ploughs we should prefer for use on a farm, we might perhaps say to the inquirer, if your land is mostly light and easy to work, try Prouty & Mears, but if your *land is heavy, hard or rocky,* BEGIN WITH Mr. Howard's."

At the above mentioned trial the Howard Plough *did more work, with the same power of team, than any other plough exhibited.* No other turned more than twenty-seven and one half inches, to the 112 lbs. draught, while the *Howard Plough turned twenty-nine and one half inches, to the same power of team!* All acknowledge that Howard's Ploughs are much the strongest and most substantially made.

There has been quite an improvement made on the shoe, or land side of this Plough, which can be renewed without having to furnish a new landside; this shoe likewise secures the mould board and landside together, and strengthens the Plough very much.

The price of the Ploughs is from $6 to $15. A Plough, sufficient for breaking up with four cattle, will cost about $10 50, and with cutter $1, with wheel and cutter, $2 50 extra.

The above Ploughs are for sale, wholesale and retail, at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, Nos. 51 & 52 North Market Street, by

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

FARM IN LEXINGTON

For sale, a farm in Lexington known as the Hastings Place, containing about 120 acres, adjoining the Farm of E. Phinney. The land is of excellent quality, well stocked with fruit trees, and a good supply of young wood. For terms apply at this office, or of E. PHINNEY, living near the premises. Lexington, Feb. 9, 1842.

FARMS FOR SALE.

To be sold, a Farm containing about ninety acres of Land, beautifully situated, one mile and a quarter from the centre of Billerica, on the main road leading from Lowell to Boston; 7 miles from the former, and 17 miles from the latter place. There is a large Dwelling House thereon, suitable for two families; also a large Barn. Also, an establishment built two years since for keeping swine, with an apparatus for boiling with steam, and having every other convenience for the business. Also a Wood Shed, Chaise House, Granary, and Cider Mill House, with a Grater Mill.

Also, another Farm adjoining the above, containing about thirty-five acres of Land, having a Dwelling House and large Shop built two years ago, for a shoe establishment. The above named lands are of an excellent quality of every variety of soil, well calculated for profitable farming, and especially adapted to Fruit, Hay and Vegetables for market, and containing more than 800 Fruit Trees.—Said estate can be conveniently divided so as to make three good farms, or the shop with five or six acres of land can be sold separately to suit purchasers.

The above property if not previously sold at private sale, will be sold at Public Auction on Thursday the 17th of March next at 10 o'clock A. M. on the premises.

Any gentleman from the city, wishing a handsome situation for a country residence, or any farmer or mechanic wishing to purchase, may do well to call and view the premises.

Inquire of the subscriber, living near the same.

SERENO FISK.

Billerica, Jan. 19, 1842. ist 17M.

FARM FOR SALE.

For sale a Farm in Lexington situated one mile west of the Village, and 11 miles from Boston, containing 175 acres, including about 40 acres of wood land, the soil is rich, and under a high state of cultivation. On the premises is a large Dwelling House, which will conveniently accommodate two families; a large Barn, Shed, Chaise House, Mill House, Cider Mill and Ice House, and an extensive Piggery, all of which are new, or in good repair. The Farm is stocked with every variety of Fruit, and the Garden, which includes about an acre, with a choice selection of Shrubs and Flowering Plants, which the proprietor has devoted several years in procuring, with great care and expense. Within the garden is a Green House, 40 feet by 16, with suitable buildings adjacent to accommodate the Gardener. The House is heated upon the most approved plan, and is stocked with a variety of the best Grapes, Flowering plants, &c.

A valuable stock of improved Short Horn, Durham, North Devon, and Alderney Cattle will be sold to the purchaser of the Farm if wanted. For further particulars inquire of ARAD PROCTER, on the premises, or of JAMES VILA, Bath Street, Boston.

If not disposed of at private sale it will be offered at Auction on Friday, 1st of April at 3 o'clock P. M.

Feb. 16. eptA1

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE WIFE'S REJOICING.

TUNE :—"*There's nae luck about the house.*"

And are ye sure the news is true,
And are ye sure he 's signed?
I can't believe the joyful tale,
And leave my fears behind
If John has signed and drinks no more,
The happiest wife am I
That ever swept a cottage hearth,
Or sung a lullaby!
For there's nae luck about the house,
There 's nae luck at a',
And gane 's the comfort o' the house,
Since he to drink did fa'!

Whose eye so kind, whose hand so strong,
Whose love so true will shine,
If he has bent his heart and hand
The total pledge to sign.
But what puts doubting in my head?
I trust he 'll taste no more;
Be still, be still, my beating heart!
Hark! hark! he 's at the door!
For there 's nae luck about the house, &c.

And blessings on the helping hands,
That send him back to me,
Haste, haste, ye little ones, and run
Your father's face to see.
And are you sure, my John, you 've signed?
And are you sure 't is past?
Then mine 's the happiest, brightest home
On tem'prance' shores at last!
There 's been nae luck about the house,
But now 't is comfort a'!
And Heaven preserve my ain gude man,
That he may never fa'.

A WOOL STORY.—The following story is told of Mr Sheafe, formerly a grocer in Portsmouth, New Hampshire:

A man had purchased a quantity of wool from him, which had been weighed and paid for, and Mr S. had gone to the desk to get change for a note. Happening to turn his head while there, he saw in a glass that hung so as to reflect the store, a stout arm reach up and take from the shelf a heavy white oak cheese. Instead of appearing suddenly and rebuking the man for his theft, and thereby losing his custom forever, the crafty old gentleman gave the thief his change as if nothing had happened, and then, under the pretence of lifting the bag to lay it on his horse, took hold of it. On doing so, it appeared heavier than he seemed to expect, upon which he exclaimed, "Bless me! I must have reckoned the weights wrong."

"Oh, no," said the other, "you may be sure of that, for I counted them with you."

"Well, well, we won't dispute about the matter—it 's easily tried!" replied Mr S., putting the bag into the scale again. "There!" said he, "I told you so—I knew I was right—made a mistake of near twenty pounds:—however, if you don't want it all, I 'll take part of it out!"

"No, no!" said the other, staying the hands of Mr S. on his way to the strings of the bag, "I rather guess I 'll take the whole." And this he did, paying for his rascality by receiving *skim milk cheese* at the price of fine wool.

PRINTERS.—There seems a natural affinity between printing and learning. Most of the early printers were men of great erudition, and acknowledged abilities; the lights of the age in which they lived, and who through the medium of their presses did much to scatter the darkness of the middle ages in Europe. Erhard, Bodolt, of Augsburg, Uldrick Han, of Rome, Vandelin de Spira, and Aldus Mauritius, of Venice, Gering, of Paris, Anthony Koburger, of Nuremburg, Ulric Tel, of Cologne, Tarotus, of Milan, Caxton, in England, with many others, were eminent as men of learning; the associates of the great; respected and honored by kings and princes.

The Stephens, Robert and Henry, were two of the most distinguished printers and scholars of the sixteenth century. Their services in the cause of classic literature cannot be overrated; they were giants in learning.

Many instances might be cited corroborative of the fact, that there is an intimate connexion between printing and knowledge, and that printers have frequently been celebrated as authors, and have risen from the manual labor of the press to the most elevated rank in society and letters. Bayle mentions a printer who printed a book from his head, setting up the types as fast as he composed his sentences, without the intervention of manuscript, or committing his thoughts to paper. Sir William Blackstone, the eminent jurist and commentator on English laws, was a printer by trade. Franklin was brought up to the same art, and George III. King of England, was so pleased with it, that he partially learnt the trade, and frequently set up types after he ascended the throne. In the United States, the memory of almost every man who has moved much in society, will furnish him instances in which practical printers have risen to great eminence in the church, at the bar, in the halls of legislation, and in the cabinet of the Executive. The art of printing is indeed a noble art, and every little type which the compositor arranges, seems like a ray of knowledge sent out to dissipate ignorance. So by reflux influence, they enlighten his own mind, inspire a thirst for learning, while at the same time they furnish the only living water which can satisfy his desires.—*Savannah Georgian.*

FLOWER SEEDS.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO., Nos. 51 and 52 North Market street, offer for sale their usual variety of Flower Seeds, comprising all that are desirable for cultivation.
Boston, March 9th, 1842.

SEEDS FOR HOT BEDS.

The subscribers offer for sale a great variety of Vegetable Seeds desirable for the Hot bed, as follows,

Nonpariel Cabbage.	Early Cauliflower.
Early Hope do.	" Broccoli, of sorts.
Early Synot's Cucumber.	Celery, superior sorts.
Fine Long Green do.	Sweet Marjoram.
Egg Plant.	

For sale by JOSEPH BRECK & CO., at the New England Agricultural Warehouse, No 51 and 52 North Market Street, Boston. March 9.

ADMINISTRATOR'S SALE

At 1 o'clock, P. M. on MONDAY, March, 28th, 1842, will be sold at public Auction, a good Farm situated in Dover, Mass. about 15 miles from Boston, containing about 60 acres of good land, having a young Orchard of Fruit Trees, viz: Apples, Plums, Quinces and Currants, with about ten acres of Woodland with a House, Barn and good water, and Wood-shed, and other out buildings built about 10 years since.

The above Farm will be sold at a reasonable price, by order of an administrator to settle the estate.

For further particulars inquire of LELAND MANN, near the premises, or JOSEPH CALLENDER, No. 3 Water st., Boston. March 9.

FOR SALE,

A few pairs of Mackay and Berkshire PIGS, from 2 to 4 months old. E. PHINNEY.
Lexington, Feb. 9.

APPLE PARERS.

Just received at the New England Agricultural Warehouse, No 51 and 52 North Market Street, a good supply of *Stanley's Superior Apple Parers*, a very useful article. With one of these machines a bushel of apples may be pared in a very short time in the best possible manner, and with great saving of the apple, as the outsides may be taken off at any required thickness. The above is also for sale at N. P. H WILLIS', No. 45 North Market Street, SCUDDER, CORDIS & CO., and HOSMER & TAPPAN, Milk Street.
Sept. 1 6w JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

FENCE CHAINS.

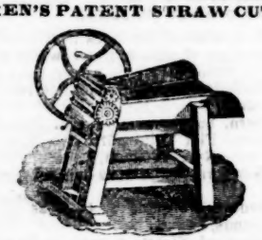
Just received from England, 10,000 feet Chains, suitable for Fences or other purposes. For sale by J. BRECK & CO., No. 52 North Market st. April 21

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS, &c

The Proprietors of the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store No. 51 and 52 North Market street, would inform their customers and the public generally that they have on hand the most extensive assortment of Agricultural and Horticultural Tools to be found in the United States. Part of which are the following:

1000 Howard's Patent Cast Iron Ploughs	100 doz. Cast Steel Shovels.
300 Common do. do.	150 " Common do.
200 Cultivators.	100 " Spades.
100 Greene's Straw Cutters.	500 " Grass Scythes.
50 Willis' do. do.	300 " Patent Snaiths.
100 Common do. do.	200 " Common do.
100 Willis' Patent Corn Shellers.	500 " Hay Rakes.
50 Common do do.	200 " Garden do.
200 Willis' Seed Sowers.	200 " Manure Forks.
50 " Vegetable Cutters	300 " Hay do.
50 Common do. do.	500 Pair Trace Chains.
200 Hand Corn Mills.	100 " Truck do.
200 Grain Cradles.	100 Draft do.
100 Ox Yokes.	500 Tie up do.
1500 Doz. Scythe Stones.	50 doz. Halter do.
3000 " Austin's Rifles.	1000 yards Fence do.
March 17.	25 Grind Stones on rollers.

GREEN'S PATENT STRAW CUTTER.



JOSEPH BRECK & CO. at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store Nos. 51 and 52 North Market Street, have for sale, Green's Patent Straw, Hay and Stalk Cutter, operating on a mechanical principle not before applied to any implement for this purpose. The most prominent effects of this application, and some of the consequent peculiarities of the machine are:

1. So great a reduction of the quantum of power requisite to use it, that the strength of a half grown boy is sufficient to work it efficiently.

2. With even this moderate power, it easily cuts two bushels a minute, which is full twice as fast as has been claimed by any other machine even when worked by horse or steam power.

3. The knives, owing to the peculiar manner in which they cut, require sharpening less often than those of any other straw cutter.

4. The machine is simple in its construction, made and put together very strongly. It is therefore not so liable as the complicated machines in general use to get out of order.

SUN DIALS.

Just received a few of Sheldon & Moore's, Sun Dials, a very neat and useful article for the purpose of giving the time of day in the garden or field. Price 75 cents. For sale by J. BRECK & CO., No 51 and 52 North Market St.
Sept 1.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

A WEEKLY PAPER.

Terms, $2 per year *in advance*, or $2 50 if not paid within thirty days.

N. B.—Postmasters are permitted by law to frank all subscriptions and remittances for newspapers, without expense to subscribers.

TUTTLE AND DENNETT, PRINTERS.